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# California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

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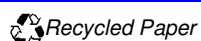
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## **CENTRAL VALLEY WATER BOARD EXECUTIVE OFFICER ISSUES \$120,000 IN COMPLAINTS FOR MANDATORY MINIMUM PENALTIES**

SACRAMENTO—The Executive Officer of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board has issued \$120,000 in Administrative Civil Liability complaints for assessment of mandatory minimum penalties (MMPs), for ten facilities throughout the Central Valley. California Water Code *section 13385* mandates penalties for violations of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. The violations which are subject to the mandatory penalties are referred to as MMP violations, meaning that the violators are subject to at least a minimum penalty for each violation.

- The University of California at Davis faces \$6,000 in MMPs for effluent limit violations that occurred at its campus wastewater treatment plant. The University violated effluent limits for electrical conductivity four times and ammonia once during the seven month period from January 1, 2009 through July 31, 2009. Treated wastewater is discharged to the South Fork of Putah Creek.
- The State of California, Department of General Services (DGS), faces \$6,000 in penalties for effluent limit violations at its heating and cooling plant in downtown Sacramento. Between January 1, 2002 and July 31, 2009, DGS violated the effluent limit for electrical conductivity five times. Treated wastewater was discharged to the Sacramento River.
- Placer County Sewer Maintenance District No. 1 faces \$24,000 in penalties for effluent limit violations at its wastewater treatment plant, which serves the unincorporated area of North Auburn. Between January 1, 2009 and July 31, 2009, the effluent limit for ammonia was exceeded 11 times. Treated wastewater is discharged to Rock Creek, which is tributary to both the Bear River and the Sacramento River.
- Placer County Sewer Maintenance District No. 3 faces \$15,000 in penalties for effluent limit violations at its wastewater treatment plant, which serves Granite Bay. Between January 1, 2009 and August 31, 2009, the effluent limit for ammonia was exceeded eight times. Treated wastewater is discharged to Miners Ravine.
- The City of Manteca faces \$15,000 in penalties for effluent limit violations at its wastewater treatment plant between January 1, 2008 and July 31, 2009. During this period, the effluent limits for total coliform were violated seven times, and the effluent limit for turbidity was violated once. Treated wastewater is discharged to the San Joaquin River.

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- The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation faces \$6,000 in penalties for effluent limit violations that occurred at its Deuel Vocational Institution in San Joaquin County. Between January 1, 2009 and July 31, 2009, the Department of Corrections violated the effluent limit for electrical conductivity once and the limit for dibromochloromethane twice. Treated wastewater is discharged into Deuel Drain, part of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and tributary to Paradise Cut and Old River.
- The El Dorado Irrigation District faces \$30,000 in penalties for effluent limit violations at its El Dorado Hills wastewater treatment plant. From January 1 2000 through July 31, 2009, the ammonia effluent limit was violated 12 times. Treated wastewater is discharged to Carson Creek, which is tributary to the Cosumnes River.
- The City of Grass Valley faces \$3,000 in penalties for effluent limit violations at its wastewater treatment plant. The effluent limit for copper was exceeded once in 2004, and the effluent limit for total coliform organisms was exceeded five times between April 1, 2008 and July 31, 2009. Four of the coliform incidents were due to a natural phenomenon (the unexpected release of an unusually large quantity of water from an abandoned mine) and are, therefore, not subject to MMPs. Treated wastewater is discharged to Wolf Creek, a tributary to the Bear River.
- Golden State Water Company faces \$3,000 in penalties for effluent limit violations at its Arden and Cordova water systems in Sacramento County. Between June 12, 2008 and September 2009, the effluent limit for suspended solids was violated once, and the effluent limit for total suspended solids was violated twice. Golden State Water Company discharges water from its distribution system flushing, fire flow testing, well development discharges, raw well water discharges, and other miscellaneous discharges associated with typical water supply operations.
- The East Bay Municipal Utility District faces \$12,000 in penalties for effluent limit violations due to filter backwashing discharges at its Camanche Reservoir South Shore Recreation Area Water Treatment Plant. Between June 12, 2008 and April 27, 2009, the effluent limit for chlorine was exceeded three times and the effluent limit for total suspended solids was exceeded once. Filter backwash water and excess raw water from the water treatment plant flows to an unnamed creek, which enters into Camanche Reservoir.

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board is a California state agency responsible for the preservation and enhancement of quality in water resources. The Board may consider the complaints at its regular public board meeting on January 27, 28, or 29, 2010.